IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-11 (Cancelled).

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): An isolated polynucleotide, comprising [[of]] SEQ ID NO:1.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): An isolated polynucleotide, comprising [[of]] SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 14 (Cancelled).

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): A recombinant expression vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of claim 12 or 13.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): A host cell transformed with the recombinant expression vector of claim 15.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): A method for producing a <u>recombinant</u>

<u>polypeptide chicken type II collagen</u>, comprising transforming a suitable host cell by
the recombinant expression vector of claim 16;

culturing the host cell in suitable culture medium and under appropriate culture conditions; and

separating and purifying the chicken type II collagen recombinant polypeptide from the culture medium, the cells, or the medium and the cells.

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Claims 18-21 (Cancelled).